Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

August 3, 2007

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker U.S. House of Representatives H-232, The Capitol Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Steny Hoyer Majority Leader U.S. House of Representatives H-107, The Capitol Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Majority Leader Hoyer:

More than two weeks ago, on July 18th, the House Judiciary Committee, by a bi-partisan voice vote, reported out H.R.1908, the Patent Reform Act of 2007. The Senate Judiciary Committee followed suit the next day with a similar bill. Editorial boards from the L.A. Times, the Washington Post, and the Wall Street Journal have been clamoring for reform and the Supreme Court has heard, considered and overwhelmingly rejected – unanimously in most cases – many of the arguments raised in favor of the current status quo patent system. As you know, our patent system was created to promote the innovation that drives our modern economy, yet it has not had a comprehensive update since the 1950s. This bipartisan legislation represents the best opportunity in a generation to modernize the patent system and, in the process, stimulate innovation and economic growth.

It has been a long road to get patent reform legislation moving in Congress, but we believe that the deliberative legislative process under way has significantly improved the current legislation. This is the third Congress in which we have had legislation introduced to modernize the patent laws. Nearly 20 hearings have taken place. The interested parties have debated and negotiated in forums all across the Capitol. We believe the bill now strikes the right balance -- addressing the problems of poor quality patents and excessive litigation that the patent system is plagued with, while ensuring that reform does not go too far or undermine protections for legitimate patent holders. Our current status-quo patent system is negatively impacting economic growth and job creation, which are necessary to drive America's global competitiveness. H.R. 1908, the "Patent Reform Act of 2007" encourages greater innovation by interjecting more predictability and certainty into the patent system.

While we understand that some continue to oppose certain aspects of this bill, we nevertheless believe that there exists clear bi-partisan momentum for reform.

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Moreover, we believe that this reform can not come soon enough. Therefore, we encourage you to capitalize on this tremendous momentum and bring H.R. 1908 to the House Floor.

Sincerely,

Artur Davis

Member of Congress

Adam Smith

Member of Congress

Joe Crowley

Member of Congress (

Adam Schiff

Member of Congress

CC: The Honorable John Conyers Chairman

Committee on the Judiciary

The Honorable Howard Berman Chairman

Subcommittee on Courts, The Internet, and Intellectual Property